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ENGLAND SHIVERS

London, Dec. 27.—Temperatures below freezing point in many parts of England on Christmas Day and Sunday continued today. The lowest temperature in the country was reported from Mildenhall, Suffolk, where it was 18 degrees. Because of frost there was no racing today at Kempton Park.—Reuter.

Fu Claims A "Glorious Victory"

Peking, Dec. 27.—Government troops repelled fresh Communist assaults against Tangku, a town of 10,000 people, on the Tientsin-Tangku railway line, General Fu Tso-yi's headquarters claimed on Monday. Calling it a "glorious victory," General Fu said the Tangku defenders within 24 hours inflicted more than 3,000 casualties on the Reds. He reported local gains in the Western suburbs of encircled Peking, including capture of the temple of God of Wealth. Six persons were arrested in Peking as suspected Communist spies. New censorship regulations in force against the Chinese press forbid publication of any war news not covered in communiques by the official Central News Agency. Publication of peace rumours is banned as leading to lower morale. —Associated Press.

Bishop Of Hereford Dead

Hereford, Dec. 27.—Dr. Richard Parsons, Bishop of Hereford, died in a hospital at Hereford on Sunday night, at the age of 60. He was taken to hospital on Christmas Eve. Bishop Parsons went to Hereford in 1941 after being Bishop of Southwark since 1932. Near his home in Kennington—he lived in an ordinary house—four churches were bombed during the war and he became known as "London's most bombed Bishop." In May, 1948, Bishop Parsons toured Yugoslavia as the representative of the Archbishop of Canterbury. A number of arrests by Yugoslav police followed a sermon preached by him in Belgrade Cathedral. He leaves a widow and one son. His elder son died of wounds in Egypt in 1942.—Reuter.

EDITORIAL

Strength In The Air

It has become a truism that in these modern days he is master who holds the air. In defence this means paramount fighter organization and a large measure of air control over sea lanes of communication. In offence, a powerful, well trained and active bomber force capable of striking where it will; and both roles must be coupled with a proper system of co-operation. Thus the Western World has now been called into being. On the military side its main purpose has been a higher degree of defence in which the interests of Britain, France, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg are to be secured. Here emphasis on air is plain and it is important, for therein lies the greatest contribution Britain can make initially to stay the march of an aggressor. Furthermore there are welcome signs of action on the lines of a North Atlantic Pact, appropriately heralded by the presence in Britain of 90 Superfortress bombers of the U.S. Air Corps, which are periodically changed on a rota. Compared to the end of the last war the great air commands of the RAF are seen in healthy miniature, capable of rapid expansion should war become imminent; for behind them in their workshops and homes stand a million ex-airmen and ex-airwomen, experienced in its work, and most of whom could be counted upon to bring expansion to its flood, within a comparatively short time. There is reason to feel confident that not again will Britain have to suffer the humiliating experience of "too little and too late."

Indonesian Guerillas Go Into Action

HIT AND RUN RAIDS IN EAST JAVA ORDERED Political Prisoners Released

Batavia, Dec. 27.—The clandestine Republican radio today reported the outbreak of guerilla attacks on Dutch forces in East Java. It called on all Indonesian troops there to strike the Dutch in swift hit-and-run raids.

The Radio said that Indonesian guerillas are operating along the rail line from Djatibarang, which is 140 kilometres east of Batavia to Cheribon, a big seaport on the northern coast. Djatibarang itself was under attack for five hours on Christmas Day, the Radio said, but the Republicans had to withdraw when Dutch reinforcements arrived.

The broadcast said the Dutch troops have been stationed on all railway stations in the area. The radio relayed a call by Major-General Sungkono, commander of the Indonesian Army in East Java. He instructed all forces under his command to carry out "swift hit-and-run" raids.

General Sungkono, who led Republican Army successes over the Communist rebels last autumn, also warned his troops that heavy punishment will be inflicted on any men who surrender their arms. General Sungkono said, "The actions being employed by the Republican Armed Forces do not mean a retreat but constitute tactics calling for a swift change of fronts."

The clandestine radio added that similar instructions have been issued to all irregular Indonesian units. The broadcast said the Indonesians destroyed one bridge near Djatibarang. Dutch military sources charged that the retreating Republicans around Wonosobo in Central Java murdered 100 Chinese. They also reported that the Dutch troops discovered 15 Dutch subjects, 25 Germans, two Australians, one Czechoslovak and three stateless persons in the mountain resort of Sarangan, on the slopes of Mount Lawu. Lawu is an extinct volcano, west of Madiun in East Java.

The Dutch said that among the Germans taken prisoner was Hans Loesche, former member of the Nazi group, who designed a flame thrower for the Republican Army.

MOPPING UP

The Dutch headquarters earlier reported continued mopping up operations in the Surakarta and Magelang areas, northwest and northeast of Jogjakarta. These operations were apparently engaging Republican Army units which withdrew intact from the Jogjakarta-Surakarta and Magelang triangle as the Dutch approached this extremely mountainous area.

The Dutch headquarters claimed the capture of Labuhan, a small Dutch naval anchorage at the western tip of Java, approximately 80 miles southwest of Batavia. The Dutch said that the Bantam campaign was continuing with the occupation of Mence, six miles east of Labuhan. They also reported Dutch activity west of Mojokerto which is situated south of Soerabaya.

Dutch military sources reported that 30 persons who were arrested by the Indonesian authorities in connection with the recent Communist rebellion led by General Musso and Amir Sjarifuddin were killed on the approach of the Dutch troops at Magelang prison. The Dutch said the victims included the former Mayor of Magelang named Soeprodjo who was also Minister of Social Affairs when Sjarifuddin was the Indonesian Premier. The Dutch said that 22 men died in prison cells were killed with sabres and guns. Two wounded and left for dead probably will recover. They said that among the dead was King Koko, a medical student who used to sing on Radio Jogjakarta. Dutch military sources who reported the incident said, "At the approach of the Netherlands forces they were shot down without any form of legal procedure." —United Press.

PRISONERS FREED

Paris, Dec. 27.—The Netherlands told the United Nations Security Council today that it had released 14 political prisoners in Indonesia, but refused to say whether it would comply with the Council's ceasefire order.

Last Friday the Council adopted a resolution ordering a ceasefire and the release of the Indonesian political and other leading political prisoners.

The Dutch delegate, J. H. van Royen, outlining the Netherlands' position at the start of the Council meeting did not name the prisoners released beyond saying they included Premier Mohamad Hatta's representative in Batavia, Dr. Darmasutanawan.

About the ceasefire, he said only, "The Netherlands Government has immediately given the resolution of the Security Council its serious consideration and has communicated with the Government of Indonesia in order to obtain additional information and advice to enable it to determine its position with regard to the resolution."

"PRACTICALLY OVER"

"The operational phase of action in Java is now practically over," added Mr. van Royen. He said the Dutch campaign had not led to large-scale hostilities, but added that how far clashes with irregular armed bands would occur "cannot be predicted with certainty."

Mr. van Royen said the Dutch authorities had taken steps to help the local population in battle areas who were, in many respects, living in emergency conditions.

Referring to the Federal interim government, he said it would be the "result of mutual consultations with representatives of all sides of Indonesia without exception." He said the Netherlands Government had ordered that United Nations military observers "be given an opportunity to study the course of events."

This was in answer to Australian demands for freedom of movement for observers, who last week were ordered to return to Batavia.

The Ukraine's V. Tarasenko submitted a new resolution to the Council demanding that Dutch troops withdraw to positions they held prior to their attack—United Press.

RESOLUTION REJECTED

Paris, Dec. 27.—The United Nations Security Council today rejected Russia's demand that it order a ceasefire and Dutch troop withdrawal in Indonesia within the next 24 hours.

Last week Soviet and French abstentions killed a similar American proposal. Today, the United States and Britain abstained, so the Russian resolution got only five votes. It needed seven for a majority.

Commenting on East-West manoeuvring within the Council, the American delegate (Dr. Philip Jessup) said, "I decline to be put in a false position by other delegations. The record of the United States on Indonesia is before the world."

The Ukraine's Vassily Tarasenko declared: "Without the United States' financial help, the Netherlands would have been unable to wage war in Indonesia. The United States Government cannot escape responsibility."

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This map, prepared by Associated Press, illustrates by the shading where the Chinese Communists are now in control.

Second Battle Of The Negev Mounts In Intensity

Tel-Aviv, Dec. 27.—The second battle of the Negev swelled on Monday into a full scale fight for the barren Southern Palestine desert. A virtual news blackout existed on the Israeli side, but it appeared on the fifth day of the new fighting that Israeli commanders this time are seeking to hurl the Egyptians back across their own frontiers—or to bring the Egyptian political leaders around to armistice talks without further delay.

In Cairo, Egyptian Communications Minister, Mr. Dessouki Abaza Pasha, said the battle had developed into a "general clash." He gave no details of the fighting, but told newsmen Egypt's military position is "good."

Despite the shutdown, on official news here, it is known that the battle is being fought on a large scale, in an area just inside Israeli territory from Egypt's Rafah frontier base, extending northward toward Gaza.

It is also known that the fighting continues unchecked on land and in the air by both sides.

CAINS, LOSSES UNKNOWN
What is not known here, however, are the gains or losses on either side, or from which side came the initial impetus of the offensive or the specific tactical objectives.

(In Paris, a report from the United Nations observers accused Israel of breaking the Holy Land truce by attacking the Egyptian forces in the Negev.)

The Negev battle began immediately after recent preliminary manoeuvring over an armistice got together broke down. A military spokesman here said the Jews still were willing to talk peace, but he said there had been no further overtures to the Egyptians since the Christmas time battle began.

Use of the air arm in the present fighting seems to be confined to direct front-line support of troops, plus attacks on near the front air bases. There did not appear to be any important raids far behind the lines.

Contrary to previous practices, Israeli communiques are silent on the names of cities or bases either bombed by their planes or raided by the Egyptians.

The Israeli spokesman insisted again that there was no fighting around Faluja, inland from Gaza, where 3,000 Egyptians have been trapped since the previous Negev operation.

The military spokesman said the nearest land fighting to Gaza was somewhere northwest of Nirim, opposite the Egyptian base at Rafah. He declined to say whether the Rafah-Gaza coastal road was cut.

It appeared obvious, however, that with fighting west of Nirim the road would be seriously endangered and the Egyptian position at Gaza perilous, even if not under direct land assault.—Associated Press.

Seamen Drowned

Shanghai, Dec. 26.—Two seamen from the Swedish steamer, the Benares, a Pole and a Swede, lost their lives yesterday morning when a lowered gangway which they were repairing broke in two and the men fell into the sea near the scene of the Kiangya disaster.

The names of the deceased were given as Kazimierz Głowacki and Arthur Harry Martinson.—Reuter.

Hutton And Washbrook In Record Test Partnership

Johannesburg, Dec. 27.—The biggest crowd to watch a cricket match in South Africa saw history made on the first day of the second Test between South Africa and England.

At the close of play England had scored 387 for two wickets in their first innings.

More than 35,000 people basked under a scorching sun while England's opening pair, Len Hutton (158) and Cyril Washbrook (105) flogged the South African attack in setting up a world record first-wicket Test partnership of 359 in 290 minutes.

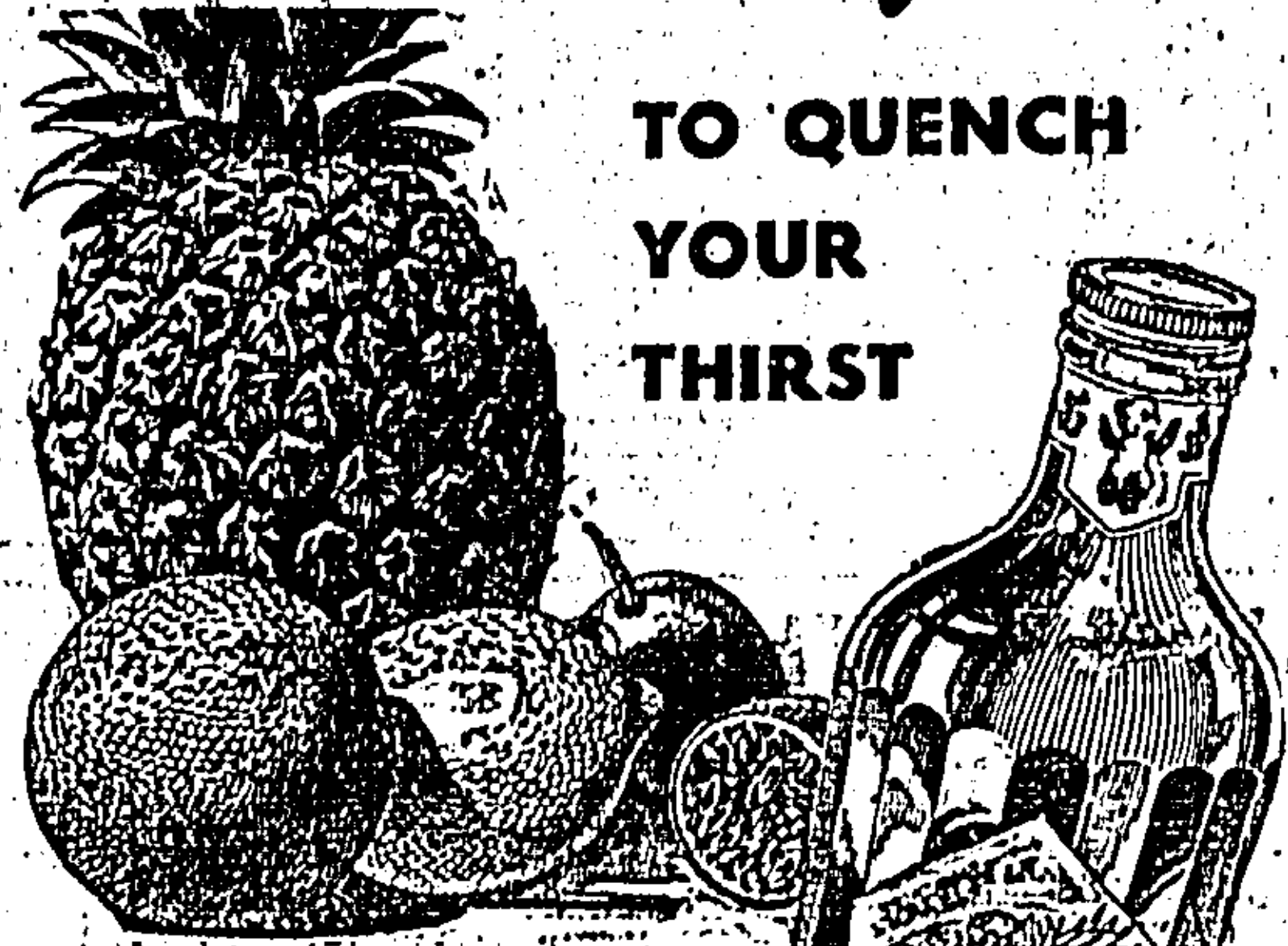
The previous best first-wicket stand in Tests was 323 by Jack Hobbs and Wilfred Rhodes, for England against Australia at Melbourne in 1912.

Another Hobbs and Rhodes record smashed was the opening stand of 221 made for England at Cape Town in 1909, which was the highest for that wicket in South Africa. Hobbs also lost another distinction. His first-wicket record stand of 268 with Herbert Sutcliffe against South Africa at Lord's in 1924, was also eclipsed.

After Hutton and Washbrook were dismissed Crapp and Compton stayed together until stumps were drawn. The scoreboard at the close of play read:

ENGLAND: 1st Innings
L. Hutton, c Wade, b McCarthy 158
C. Washbrook, c Beale, b McCarthy 105
J. Crapp, not out 14
D. Compton, not out 10
Extras 10
387 for two
—Reuter.

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SWING BACK



Another swing-back style, with a pleated collar to echo the trimmings on the low square neck dress, by Linzi, of matching material.

Dressing The Film Stars

BY HETTIE GRIMSTEAD

EARLY 19th century influence is shown strongly in many of the fashions designed for new United Kingdom films. The soft brightly-striped satin which covered gracious old sofas and draped the tall windows is now the smartest material the stars can wear.

In "Look Before You Love" Margaret Lockwood plays the owner of a smart London dress salon and wears a dramatic cocktail suit of pale pink moire striped with indigo. Sheath-smooth, the stripes meet in perfect arrowheads down the skirt.

faring out in fanlike effect on the basque jacket, the tails of which are lined with plain indigo silk. Completing the outfit she carries a square box bag such as ladies used to keep sweets in the old days.

In "Silent Dust" blonde Sally Gray acts a poignant scene wearing a girl's evening frock of watered grey and rose striped satin with a billowing skirt and nipped-in waistline. In "The Blind Goddess" Anne Crawford's plain black wool-town suit is highlighted by a long-sleeved blouse of vivid green and white striped silk with a matching touch of bright emerald in the feather in her tiny black beret.

Screen stars must always watch their figures anxiously, constantly exercising to keep perfectly supple and graceful. So Glynis Johns finds it a remarkable change to have to take lessons in moving stiffly and awkwardly, with hands and legs held rigid. The reason is because she is going to play the leading role in "The Perfect Woman"—a mechanical robot. The film calls for Glynis to impersonate the creature in some amusing sequences.

After-Dusk Hats

Some of the newest after-dusk hats are simply made of feathers skillfully draped. Kathleen Ryan, now playing in "Christopher Columbus", has a gay little round cap of multi tinted feathers to go with her green velvet suit when she changes out of her voluminous period gown at the end of the day's shooting. Tamara Lees in a magnificent minic coat wears a hat made from pheasant plumes. Tamara is one of the chorus beauties in "Trotter True", a film of the early 1900's. A delightful sequence, which was "shot" in Richmond Park, The Royal Park near London, showed the entire company of the Gaiety Theatre, then one of London's most fashionable theatres, going to their annual picnic in old-fashioned horse-drawn carriages.

In spite of the jolly atmosphere, most of the girls decided that sitting on hard wooden benches in a rocking carriage, wearing light whalebone corsets and balancing heavy hats, put a good deal of strain on their capacity for enjoyment.

Fashion News For Spring

Fashion experts in London have already had a good view of the spring millinery which will be available in a few months' time. The Associated Millinery Designers of London put on a collection of hats which proved conclusively that the bonnet and the cloche will continue to be leading favourites in April and May. Both styles are easy to wear over the increasingly popular short-cut hair fashions. Flowers, as might be expected in a show of spring millinery, appeared in profusion; but equal preference was given to feathers which are having a greater vogue than they have had for years. Spring colours forecast are muted pastels, grey, beige and navy although vivid trimmings are likely to be favoured. And besides the basic shapes already mentioned high crowns are likely to come back to fashion; and a high-crowned hat which suggested the First Empire, was swathed with blue and white striped ribbons and two vivid scarlet camellias.

As for materials, melusine (a very fine felt), peach bloom velours, jersey, brocade and crepe were widely used. On a Flemish bonnet white pique straw was combined with navy velvet while a pink straw bonnet which had a matching handbag, was swathed with taffeta imprinted with a waffle design.

Popular Rayons Overcoat

The rayon industry in Britain is being overwhelmed with orders from overseas and factories are working at high pressure both for the bulk and the exclusive markets. So great is the demand for taffetas, stiff brocades and moires and other fine fashion fabrics that wens have been hard pressed to supply to delivery dates. Less expensive rayons from the United Kingdom are equally popular in other countries. The quality of Britain's well-known utility cloths is world-famed mainly because their specifications are standardised, which means that buyers from abroad know exactly what they are getting.

But the rayon industry in Britain is not content to rest on its laurels, and planned efforts are being made to improve both fabrics and patterns. For this purpose there must be the closest co-operation between science and design. While the scientist may produce a new fibre, a new dye, or a new technique, it is the artist and designer who must prepare it for sale.

By ALICE ALDEN

THERE IS MORE than a casual acceptance of the good cannot this winter. It appears in the finest showings and has been accorded the careful treatment usually lavished on a fine feathered number. John Frederick, always strong for this type of hat, does a real beauty in beaver felt, a soft golden brown. The softly creased crown is finished by a "fly-whip" of natural horsehair in a saddle leather holster, a real sporty affair, but good.

MODERNA LAMBSWOOL BLANKETS.

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Keeping Count of Calories



To keep your figure slim, requires exercise and careful attention to diet, says Movie Star Marguerite Chapman.

By HELEN FOLLETT

SHOULD it happen that you have added a little weight, this is a good time of the year to start a reducing war because out door exercise is still delightful. When the chill winds blow, you are not likely to take kindly to long walks that are so good for a lot of things that all human creatures.

When adipose cells start to form, there is no telling how fast they may multiply. It is safer to be a weight watcher, to see if the both room scales makes dubious reports. Ten pounds too much may not have much of an effect upon the svelte shape, but when ten doubles to twenty it may be difficult to get back to normal. Movie stars take no chances. A lovely figure is their stock in trade. Follow their example if you are inclined to be curvaceous.

Foods to eat are those that are poor in fats, sweets and starches, together with enough protein—meat, fish, eggs—to maintain the structure of the body cells and to supply energy.

One can have lean meat, chicken, crisp bacon, practically all fruits, buttermilk, cottage cheese, asparagus, cauliflower, cabbage, carrots, cucumbers, Brussels sprouts, lettuce, spinach, squash, radishes, tomatoes,

onions, string beans. But don't have any of these vegetables that swim in butter. Take tea and coffee clear. You may not like either one at first but you may be surprised to find that your taste buds will do a turn-about and accept them.

Here is a list of foods to be avoided. Fat meats, duck, goose, fried meats in any form. Starchy vegetables like sweet tinned potatoes, baked beans, lima beans, linseed or green corn, french salad dressings, cream soups, candy, pastry, sugar, gravies, preserves.

While dieting will reduce because it one lacks the usual amount of calories the fat cells will live upon themselves, bring about their own destruction and a certain amount of outdoor exercise is necessary for good spirits and well being.

If you find it difficult to take time out for sports, do a few calisthenics morning and night. A good exercise is as follows: After taking a good firm stance, feet parallel, a few inches apart and bending knee upward, stretch legs straight forward. Return to preceding position, then original position. Change to the other leg. Fifteen times a day is a reasonable minimum for this exercise especially recommended for keeping the abdomen flat.



Two Foods You Need Daily

LOOK at this report, Chef, from a recent national survey. It says that 45 percent of the people do not follow the desirable practice of eating citrus fruits and raw greens daily.

"Oh, la la! This means that almost half the people are not eating these fruits and vegetables every day. But they are what you call necessary foods, Madame. As it possible that millions of people cannot afford them?"

"In some cases that may be true," I said. "But the real reason is that the homemaker doesn't realise these are essential foods, and so fails to make provision in her food budget for their use every day. She'll buy potatoes and onions, but too often passes by the fresh raw greens and salad plants."

"But, Madame, a big tossed green salad is really as appetising as any cooked vegetable. And it is, as you say, full of the vitamins and the minerals."

Pass Up Salads

"But may I remind you, Monsieur, that many men still think of a green salad as 'bunny food'? And pass it up?"

"And may I remind Madame that many women who have a shirring chicken or a fruit salad in the restaurant, will leave the green leaves on the plate?"

"Check and double check, Chef," I chuckled. "But at least we can do our part in encouraging the use of green vegetables and explaining the proper preparation of salads."

"And I think the men will eat them if they are nicely served, appetising, well prepared and not too fancy. Above all, the ingredients must be fresh and crisp," he added.

"Of course, the greens should not be stored in paper or bags in the refrigerator. They should be washed as soon as they come from the store and the water shaken off at once. But don't allow them to soak. Then they should be stored in a cool place in a covered container, and be sure they are covered tight; otherwise they will dehydrate (that is lose water), especially in a dry refrigerator, and become flabby and lifeless."

Need Daily Care

"All greens and salad plants need daily care too," remarked the Chef. "They should be sprayed or carefully rinsed every day. And the container should also be washed. They should not be left without attention to deteriorate."

This saves full food values because the produce is kept fresh.

Dinner

Grape Fruit Juice
Brown Veal Cubes in Rice Border
Fried Parsnips
Apples Meringue
Coffee or Tea
Milk (Children)

All Measurements Are Level
Recipes Serve Four

Brown Veal Cubes

Cut 1 lb. lean veal (any cut) into 1/2 in. cubes and roll in flour. In a small deep kettle melt 1/2 cup sugar. Add 2 tbs. margarine and 1 peeled, sliced mild onion. Fry until it begins to turn colour. Then add the veal. Slow-fry, turning often until the veal is light brown. Add 1 qt. boiling water, 1 tsp salt, 1/4 tsp pepper and a little lemon rind. Cover and simmer until tender, about 1 1/2 hrs; or put in a casserole and bake at 350 F., allowing 2 hrs. If pressure-cooked, allow 15 min. at 15 lbs. pressure. Serve in a border of fluffy rice.

Apples Meringue

Prepare plain baked apples, or use tinned baked apples. When done heap with milk. High meringue. Cook 12 min. longer in a slow oven. Cool and serve with the syrup in which the apples were baked, or with custard, maple syrup or top cream.

Baked Apples: Select large tart cooking apples. Remove the cores almost to the bottom. Pare off 1/2 of the skin, starting at the top. Fill the centres with a choice of chopped raisins and nuts; cranberry jelly; drained, or chopped canned peaches or apricots. Place in a baking dish. Dissolve 1/2 c. sugar in 1 c. hot water or any fruit juice and pour in. Slow-bake until the apples are tender, allowing from 45 to 60 min. in a moderate oven, 350 to 375 F. Taste occasionally with the syrup in the baking dish.

Mile High Meringue

Enough for a 9" pie, or to top generously 8 big baked apples. Break 3 egg whites into a deep bowl. Add 2 1/2 tbs. cold water and beat until frothy. Add 1/2 tsp. cream of tartar. Continue to beat until stiff. Add 3 tbs. sugar and beat until stiff enough to form peaks. Pile over the apples or what-not, and slow-bake at 325 F. for 12 min.

WORLD NEWS IN PICTURES



HOODWINKED—Mike, Theresa Palazzolo's pet cat, doesn't know it yet but he is about to be entered in a Cat Show staged by the Lower West Side Centre of the Children's Aid Society in New York. That's Mike riding papoose-style in Theresa's hood.



GUTTED BLOCK—The streets are littered with debris in the Bronx section of New York as firemen fight a two-alarm fire which ruined five Bronx stores. Firemen had to hack and hew at partitions in order to bring the smouldering blaze into the open.



STRIKING CONTRAST—Pfc. William J. Kersey of Atlanta, Georgia, a member of the staff of the American Embassy in Rome, stands guard duty at the Embassy entrance, side by side with an Italian carabinieri in full dress.



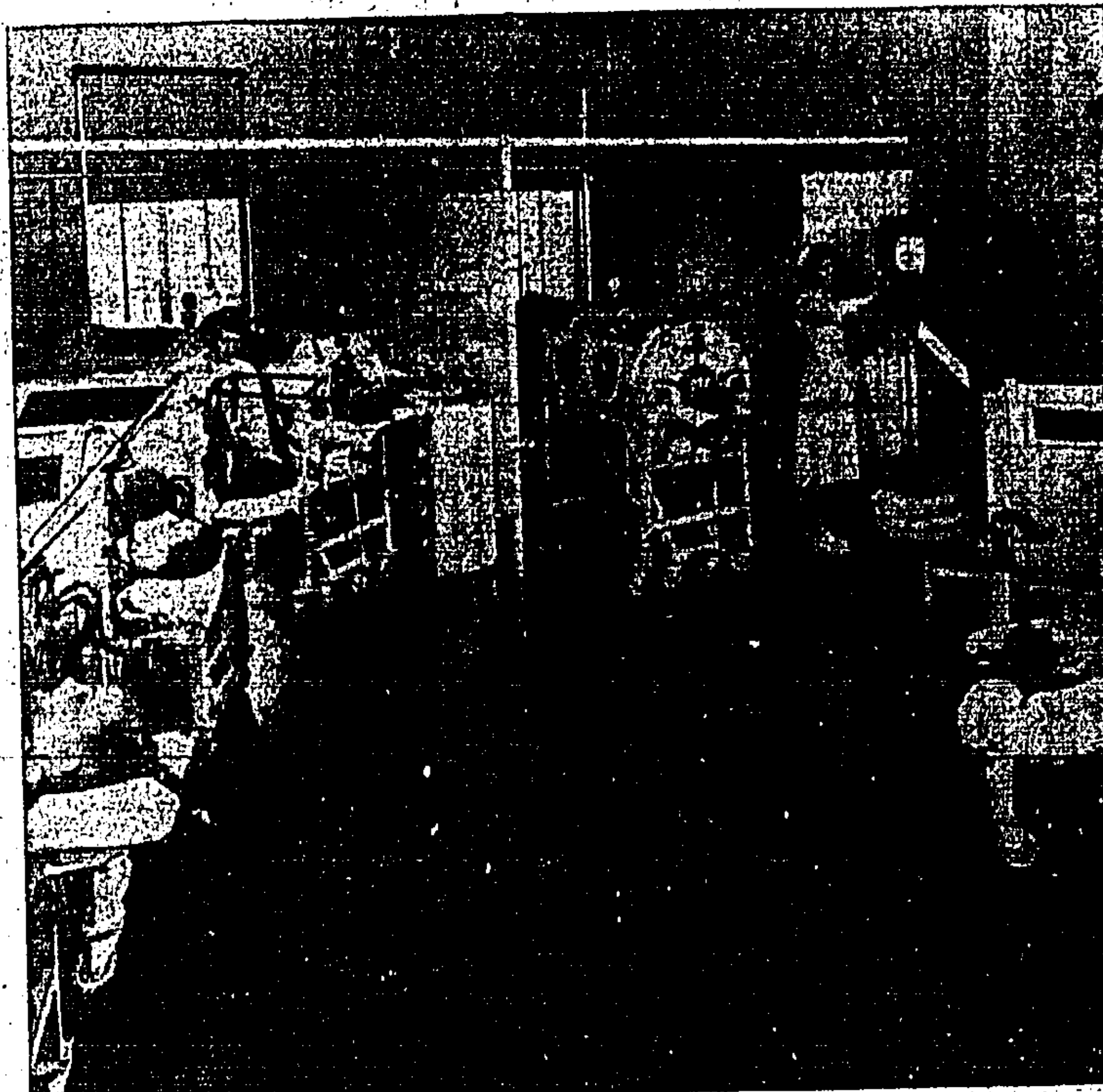
BOTTLE CAT—Yoyo, 4 months old, learned to drink milk this way as a kitten after his mother was killed by a car, says his owner, Mrs. Annie Estabrook of Portland, Maine.



CLOSING IN—The "newer look" offers another dramatic change, according to latest Parisian styles. The long, billowing skirts and generous lines of last year are gathered into the sheath-like confines of the directoire line.



'THE LIP' IN A TUX—Baseball Manager Leo "The Lip" Durocher wears a tuxedo as he sits with his movie actress wife, Laraine Day, in a hotel at Beverly Hills, California.



MIRRORED JOY—Iron lung patients at the Baltimore, Maryland, Children's Hospital now see television broadcasts daily, thanks to the generosity of the Baltimore Rotary Club. Mirrors on the mechanical lungs permit the patients to enjoy this recreation in an otherwise tedious existence.



'WET' WATER—Miami, Florida, firemen battle a kerosene blaze during a demonstration at the International Fire Chiefs' Convention in that city. The specially prepared water has greater penetration and extinguishes fires quicker than ordinary water.

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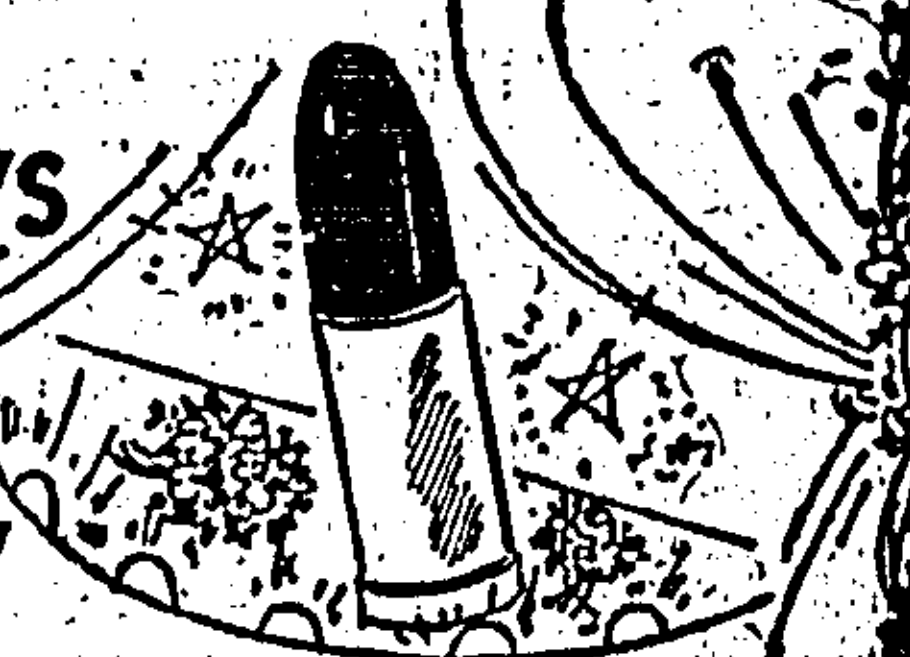
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ANOTHER CHECKUP—Dr. R. L. Price, Assistant Surgeon, U.S. Public Health Service, examines native children at Atka, Aleutian Islands. Dr. Price sometimes works round the clock examining and treating children and adults in his work with the Bering Sea patrol of the U.S. Coast Guard.

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THE REAL STALIN

By EMIL LUDWIG

AT the end of the civil war, in 1922, Lenin had a breakdown, and from then on he only gave his advice, but no longer was ruling the country.

That his ten or twelve top collaborators were spared similar breakdowns after those trying years is remarkable. Stalin owed his robust health to his mother.

When I last visited Russia, I saw the aged woman, still going strong, enter her modest house in Tiflis, a simple black shawl on her head. Her son, the most powerful on earth, could have given her any of the czar's castles.

Stalin survived Russia's turmoil in perfect health. In the midst of the civil wars, as a man of about forty, he divorced his wife and married the seventeen-year-old daughter of a friend of his.

That's about all that is known of his relationship with women. He had a son, but didn't seem to have been very fond of him (although recently this son has been getting a lot of publicity as a "hero" in the Soviet Air Corps).

Within the two years of the "interregnum" — when Lenin was still alive but ruling in name only — Stalin gained the decisive victory of his life.

It was neither a battle nor a revolution; it was the conquest of the Communist Party.

RECEIVED THE KEYS

HE became Secretary General of the party, and thus received, as it were, the keys to every room and every dungeon in the country, the power to unlock them and close them again, like the turnkey of a medieval fortress.

Lenin had founded the Soviet State, Trotsky the Red Army, Stalin established the Cheka, later on called the OGPU — the original model of the Gestapo.

The Cheka was "not a body-guard for Stalin's physical protection in times of revolution. It was a body resembling the czarist secret police, but consisting of men far more active and dangerous than the latter."

With the help of his Red police Stalin could get rid of any man he

wanted to erase. Thus he could make his own arrangements for every impending political crisis, or decision.

The fortress whose keys Stalin held was the whole of Russia. Together with Zinoviev and Kamenev he formed the "Troika," so called after the Russian sleigh drawn by three horses abreast. These two men, inferior to him intellectually, were loyally attached to his cause.

ASIATIC NATURE

WITHIN these two years of the "interregnum," the Troika filled literally tens of thousands of party jobs with its "benchmen," and its supreme master grew far more powerful than the "Council of the Nineteen" which then was ruling according to the constitution.

The crafty Asiatic nature of Stalin, revealed in his tactfulness, contrasted greatly with the openness of both Lenin and Trotsky.

Lenin had known how to understand and convince people. Stalin gave orders.

In those days one of the members of the Soviet Council said: "The British Parliament, as the saying has it, can do everything except change a man into a woman. Our Central Committee has changed many a brave man into a woman."

When Lenin died in June, 1924, at the age of fifty-four, Trotsky happened to be in the south, recuperating from an illness.

NO ANTONY

PERHAPS Stalin remembered Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar," and the great influence which Antony's eulogy had on the populace.

He managed to keep Trotsky away from Lenin's funeral by misinforming him on its date, and to be himself the man who buried the great Lenin.

Stalin was no Antony — his oration was repetitive, without imagination and quite dull. But the hundreds of thousands of Russians who had flocked to the Red Square were gratified by the sight of this disciple and successor of their idol who, standing in front of the coffin, delivered the eulogy.

Incidentally, the idea at that time was to keep the body lying in state only for some days for people who would arrive too late for the ceremony.

But when the embalment proved to be better than expected, it was decided to perpetuate the sight — and thus Lenin's body, head and hands yellow and waxen, is still to be seen in the mausoleum built in the wall of the Kremlin.

The body was not yet removed from the embalmer's workshop when the Central Committee met in order to decide on Lenin's successor.

Stalin unsealed Lenin's will before the whole committee, including Trotsky, who meanwhile had returned.

Lenin had handed over his political testament to his wife, calling it a "useful" document. He had given no orders, but only offered his advice. Here is what he wrote:

"I think such people as Stalin and Trotsky to be fit as leaders of the Central Committee. However, their personal relations contain the danger of the very rift in our party which must be prevented."

"As Secretary General, Comrade Stalin has enormous power; I am not sure whether he will always use it with the called-for prudence."

"Comrade Trotsky is an extraordinary man not only through his uncommon talents. Personally he is undoubtedly the most gifted member of the Central Committee."

"But his self-confidence is too great. If our party does not prevent it, a split may well occur."

SECOND TESTAMENT

BUT there was a second testament, a sort of postscript dictated by Lenin to his wife ten days after the first one was written, and signed by himself. As reliably reported by witnesses, it read:

"Stalin is too ruthless, and this shortcoming of his, fairly bearable among us communists, becomes unbearable in the office of the Secretary General."

"Therefore I suggest that some way be found to remove Stalin from that office, and replace him with someone else who is totally unlike Stalin: that is, more patient, more loyal, more polite to his comrades and less whimsical."

"In view of the split which must be prevented and the relation between Stalin and Trotsky, this is no secondary matter. It may one day be of crucial importance. Stalin managed to have the will withheld from the public, although Lenin's wife — he hated her — demanded its publication."

ON TROTSKY

ASKED Stalin about Trotsky, and vice versa. Probably I am the only stranger ever to ask such a question in the Kremlin after Trotsky's banishment.

Stalin replied: "Trotsky wielded great authority. Yet he is forgotten today. When people still remember him on occasions, they do so only with uneasiness."

"Go and ask the workers yourself, and you'll find that ninety percent of them will be bitter about Trotsky."

He did not say one hundred percent would.

Since Stalin knew that the meeting of the Soviets (after Lenin's death) would re-elect him anyway, he offered his resignation.

The Empire Is Footing The Bill

By DON TAYLOR

DETAILS have now leaked out in Paris of the huge contribution which Britain and her Colonies are expected to make towards the economic recovery of Western Europe, as part of the price we pay for Marshall aid.

Through the next four years our energies are to be bent on exploiting the raw material resources of the Colonial Empire on the grand scale.

To help the colonial peoples? To improve the standard of living in Britain? Not at all.

The object primarily is to fit our economy with that of Western Europe, and put other countries on their feet.

Here are some typical increases of raw material production that we are expected to achieve:

Groundnuts: From 330,000 tons (1946) to 866,000 tons (1952).

Tin: From 27,000 to 98,000 tons.

Copper: From 199,000 to 350,000 tons.

Bauxite: From 1,230,000 to 1,910,000 tons.
Sugar: From 881,000 to 1,378,000 tons.

Lead: From 10,000 to 34,000 tons.
It might seem at first sight that such a stimulation of production is a good thing for the Colonial Empire. But these are the raw materials the Colonies have been producing for years.

INCREASED RISK

Despite the tragic lessons from the past of what happens to ill-balanced colonial economies, they are to go on producing them.

The only difference is that there will be more of them, with a correspondingly increased risk of economic unbalance.

There is no guarantee that the European markets now to be supplied by the Colonies will be permanent.

Once short-term needs have been met, these dependent territories of ours may well be left high and dry, forced to contemplate once again "restriction" schemes such as we have known in the past in tin, copper, rubber, and a host of other primary commodities.

That is the danger we run.

TO BE PIGEON-HOLED

Concentration on meeting short-term European and American needs means that the broad-based plans for the Colonies, on which long-lasting prosperity can be built, are to be pigeon-holed.

For does Sir Stafford Cripps pretend that he can find the steel, the rolling stock, the rails, and all the other equipment for these vitally needed permanent schemes, in addition to the material needed to expand present industries to suit the Marshall plan?

Pigeon-holing long-term development plans will be a gross breach of faith with the Colonies. If there are no voices in Britain to say so, they will not be wanting in the Colonies themselves.

Last year Britain imported £153 million worth of timber and forest products. Most of it was paid for in hard currencies.

Yet we have 615,000 square miles of forest in the Colonial Empire. It could produce as much of the timber and forest products Britain wants.

UNTAPPED TREASURE

Why doesn't it? Lack of communications. And if we follow present policies, lack of communications will still keep the wealth of this great treasure-house of ours untapped.

Our present policy is injuring the Dominions equally with the Colonies. In British Columbia the timber industry, built to its present size to help meet the needs of Britain, now faces a setback because Britain can no longer take more than a fraction of its output.

Only the other day Mr. Gardiner, Canada's Minister of Agriculture, told the farmers of that Dominion that they could no longer be assured of a market in Britain for all they could produce.

There are undeniable difficulties in the way of developing our Empire wealth. But imagination and faith would go a long way towards solving them.

CHOKING CHANNELS

Instead of bending all its energy and imagination to keeping the vital trade channels of Empire free and open, the Government is choking them out of existence.

Instead of keeping the great vision in front of it, it lives by a paltry system of hand-to-mouth barter to make the world safe for Socialism at any cost.

TO BE CONTINUED TOMORROW

NANCY Surprise!!!



By Ernie Bushmiller



rugie. — pinned cross.

HOME SPORTFRONT

By "DEX"

RINGSIDE SEAT ASSORTMENT

Quite enough has been written about the Woodcock fight fiasco. I need not enter into it any further. But what riveted my attention at the fight, as it has done at all big fights, was the amazing collection of humanity of the most obnoxious types that filled the most expensive seats—ten guineas downwards. I have never seen such an assortment of human gorillas.

There were, of course, a number of reputable and decent looking citizens among them, but these, I could see, did not relish the company they found themselves in, any more than I did.

Going to a big fight these days is rather like lifting up a stone in a muddy pool. The most extraordinary creatures crawl out into the light.

In the case of the fight fans, they seem to be very well endowed with most of the good things of life, money, clothes, food, cigars, and jewellery.

Some of their female companions, indeed, were decorated like Christmas trees.

MONEY MYSTERY

One can't help wondering where do these men and women get the money from? What's their real business? They keep their business books and pay their taxes as meticulously as you, and I must do?

"I feel, after some of the tales we have heard elsewhere in recent weeks, that we might make the big fight nights do a national service if the police could be persuaded when the gals are on to throw a net round the high-priced seats and demand a general declaration of identity so that a little checking up of activities and tax-paying generally could be done at the addresses collected.

On the road leading to the stadium I saw the most astonishing collection of new American and other luxury cars I have seen since before the war.

A check-up on their ownership and how they came to be acquired might also be a useful piece of work.

It is a pity that prizefighting should have such a background. For boxing is a mainly manly sport, though we seem in recent years to have reached a rather low level of accomplishment in it.

PRESERVE NO LONGER

What is wrong with football at the big public schools? On the evidence of the recent Oxford v. Cambridge matches the small schools and the secondary grammar schools have occupied what used to be their private preserves.

In the Soccer match, 13 out of the 22 players came from grammar and secondary schools.

In the Rugby match, Oxford had four players from Oundle, Dulwich, Sedburgh, and Denstone, four from smaller public schools, two from grammar schools, and five from overseas.

Cambridge had two each from Oundle and Sedburgh, one from Tonbridge, one from Wokingham, and four from smaller schools, two from overseas, and four from grammar schools.

BRAINS BEFORE BONE

With entry preference given at the universities to ex-Servicemen and scholarship winners, the times have gone when a public school athlete, prominent for bone rather than brain, could go up for "blue" with the minimum of academic qualification.

Moreover, scholarships now cover a wider field, with grants enabling anyone from any school to pay his way.

The big public schools still win plenty of scholarships—but the games ability does not seem to match the brains.

WANTED BY 7 CLUBS

Three weeks ago West Bromwich Albion scout Joe Elliott stood on the touch-line in a farmer's field watching a young centre half playing in a minor cup game.

That one view was enough. The scout came back that night with West Bromwich paid £750 for 22-year-old Kennedy, of Altrincham Reserves, a Mid-Cheshire League club.

Behind the transfer is a story of a seven-club struggle for his signature and a three months' jump from junior football to the ranks of the Second Division leaders.

Kennedy came out of the Army last summer and started playing football with a junior club. He was spotted and joined Altrincham as an amateur.

His uncanny head-work impressed, but he could kick with only one foot. Followed an intense coaching plan in which Kennedy played with a tennis shoe on his "wrong" foot and inside three weeks he emerged a complete two-footed player.

THE SCOUTS CLUSTERED

News of his skill got around and the scouts began to cluster. Following the visit of Joe Elliott, young Kennedy was watched by Everton, Manchester United, Manchester City, Preston, Bury, and Crewe Alexandra.

Everton manager, Cliff Britton, made an offer of £500 if Kennedy had a successful trial at Goodison.



B.B. BUY! WAS B.B. BANKING ON AGENAL TO BUY US SOME NUTS FOR CHRISTMAS.

JOHN MACADAM'S COLUMN

Bookmaker For The Prison Camp Derby

Among the bearded denizens of Chelsea, you might encounter an odd character—an odd character in these parts being anybody without either a long black beard, a fancy Edwardian moustache, or a pink shirt. This particular character would compel your attention by his complete un-oddity and his name.

The gentleman is not much more than 5ft. 8ins. high, no goliath as to girth, his speech is that of a cultured Englishman, he is a bookmaker and a Scotman, and his name is Hercules Ross.

The forebears of Mr Ross occupied the now-ruined Rossie Castle in Forfarshire, and his great-grandfather, Captain Horatio Ross, the deerstalker, rifle shot, steeple-chase rider, and general field-sportsman, was the hero of one of the first—it is not actually the first—races over rough country in history, when his Clinker beat the Clinker over fences and set the pace for future steeplechasing.

With a background like this it is not surprising that young Hercules Ross began to make a book around 1934, any more than it is surprising that he joined the Norfolk and got mixed up with the fall of Singapore.

RELAXATION

He spent three and a half years as a prisoner of war, spent two and a half of them helping build the Bangkok-Moulmein railroad for the Japanese, and then, for the last year, relaxed in a camp outside Bangkok.

Relaxed, that is, in a manner peculiar to the English sporting gent who slem the wilds of Forfarshire. Hercules made a book. There were no racetracks in the immediate vicinity of the prison camp, but a little thing like the absence of racetracks doesn't deter The Old Infirm.

They picked out the biggest and the fittest prisoners and conferred on them the names of racehorses they remembered from the halcyon days. Hercules promoted one or two of them, and got out into the compound at four o'clock in the morning to watch them at gallops over a selected 120 yards.

The horse-men went to the camp hospital and picked themselves out the most emaciated malarial-ridden light-weights they could find (these were the lockys), and so they raced, and Hercules made his book. Sometimes a friendly scurry would come down to his stand, mutter a mouthful of Japanese, and stick a couple of dollars in his hand.

"I never knew what they wanted to back," says Hercules, "but these sentries never backed a loser with me."

ORGANISATION

They ran the thing right. They had a Tattler for the officers and the Silver Ring for other ranks. There was a Tattler's committee representative of all ranks, in the camp to adjudicate on running and betting disputes, and bettors who couldn't pay out gave their IOUs to the bookmaker.

"They've all paid me out since I got back," says Hercules. "All except one—and he's got a pretty good reason. He will one day when he gets a chance, and if he doesn't... well?"

You see no trace of all this as you meet him in Chelsea in his local bar or in his S.P. offices. His prison camp clerk is still clerking.

Park. West Bromwich offered the same amount without a trial.

Others clubs made offers, but all were topped by West Bromwich's £750, with Everton wanting a second look before they went higher. Kennedy was asked to name his club and yesterday he decided on West Bromwich.

The man who coached Kennedy is Salford schoolmaster Arthur Gale, who played in every game up to the F.A. Cup semi-final for West Bromwich in 1935 and was left out of the Wembley team.

5,000 ANGLERS HELPED

If you catch a big fish and want to boast about it, don't waste time in getting to the weighing scales.

In "Where to Fish," edited by W. G. Luscombe (The Field Press, 18s.), it is recorded that a 10 lb. carp lost 10 ozs. in five hours, a pike of 10 lb. 6 ozs. lost 9 ozs. in 24 hours, and a bream of 10 lb. 7 1/2 ozs. lost 2 1/2 ozs. in three hours. With salmon and big trout, however, loss of weight does not exceed one percent in 24 hours.

Retirement Pay For Footballers

By VERNON MORGAN

London, Dec. 27.—Much of the unrest among players which has characterised postwar soccer in Britain might be banished by the adoption of a plan for payments for players when they retire.

It is reported here that such a plan is to be considered by the Football League.

The plan, it is stated, was conceived by Mr Nevill Hewitt, Chairman of Southend United. Under its provisions, nearly £500,000 out of soccer's huge revenue would be set aside annually in a fund to provide payments of up to about £7,000 for footballers when their careers are ended.

The central idea of the scheme as reported is that all benefit and talent money should be pooled, and players should share in the fund according to a system of marks awarded for various "merits."

MERIT SCALE

Each two marks would entitle a player to £1 from the fund at the end of his playing days. The scale of marks would give varying numbers to those players who played in representative matches or Cup finals and to those who were members of clubs winning the championships of the different divisions of the Football League.

It is also suggested that marks should be awarded to players for consistent service with the same club, the marks being allotted on a scale of one mark for each year the footballer serves the club.

Various other qualifications would also bring a quota of marks under the reported plan, and a player of the highest class might gain enough during his career to bring himself a retiring payment of about £7,000.

INDUCEMENT

It is plain to see the inducement to a player to stay with one club during the whole of his career—an inclination which has become less and less evident during the past few years.

Mr Hewitt's scheme, as reported, envisages the raising of the money for the working of the fund by percentage deductions from the gate money of virtually all first-class matches played in England and Wales, and the fund would also be swelled by a proportion of all transfer fees.

The adoption of this scheme would bring sweeping change in the benefit system in soccer, a change which many conservative-minded club managers might be reluctant to see brought about.

But it has been said by many soccer critics here that just some such drastic action as well as necessary if the game is not to suffer from difference between players and their clubs.—Reuter.

TRIANGULAR TOURNAMENT

The Army easily defeated the Hongkong Cricket Club by nine wickets in the first match of the Triangular Tournament yesterday at Chater Road.

The game was featured by the surprising collapse for 67 of a strong Club batting side and the equally surprising innings of 189 for 8 by the Army.

A little over a week ago, Army, nine wickets down with 14 runs left, looked hardly a challenger for Triangular Tournament honours.

Yesterday, with Stepto in no particularly devastating form against what was about the strongest batting side of the combined Scorpions and Optimists, Club was all out for 67. The wicket, of course, helped.

The Club had to repeat the performance of the Scorpions, six of whom were playing yesterday, in

RAF Scheme For Winter Sports

Among those who are participating in a scheme arranged by Britain's Royal Air Force Winter Sports Association to enable members of the Service—women as well as men—to spend a fortnight's holiday at St. Moritz, Switzerland, as part of their ordinary leave, is Air Marshal Sir Cyril Cooke, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, R.A.F. Maintenance Command, who will join the party leaving at the beginning of February.

The association has arranged these holidays in six fortnightly periods, at an inclusive cost which covers fares, hotel accommodation, meals, instruction in all winter sports, and the hire of sports equipment.

The first party numbering about 60, and including Group Captain R. W. P. Collins, Chairman of the Association, was due to arrive at St. Moritz on December 27.

He promised, however, that he would enter his boat in the 1949 annual of the Harmsworth Trophy, said today that he was through with piloting water speedsters.

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Referees Can Help To Spot The Young Stars

By STANLEY MATTHEWS

My recent article on the dearth of young players and suggestions for digging them out of the obscurity of minor football brought many readers' views and a plea from a referee.

He wants to know why referees cannot be allowed to pass on tips and recommend budding talent they have noted during refereeing duties up and down the country.

He says that the referees, if he knows his job, should be able to spot any likely youngsters from a much better position than the scout on the touch-line.

There is something to be said for the idea, but there is also a lot against it. The F.A. quite recently forbade any referee acting as an official scout for a club.

He must be absolutely unbiased, and his job is hard enough without any additional duties. If he concentrates on watching for future stars he is likely to miss infringements.

I also question whether his position is better for talent spotting. You get a general picture of the game from the line and you can get a better idea of a player's moves.

So let us leave the referee to his present job. Far better is the plan of a Worcester referee who asks if it is possible for him to use his experience in talent spotting after his retirement from refereeing. Under present rules referees have to retire at an early age, and their balanced opinions might be of untold value to clubs.

Most referees know a good player when they see him—their years in the middle have given them that experience—and I am sure that if my Worcestershire friend got in touch with any club after retirement they would be delighted to accept his recommendations.

League clubs cannot have too many scouts these days. We must get more youngsters into the big-time game if it is to continue booming, and the more recommendations clubs get the better they will take it.

Army Surprises The Club

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The Club had to repeat the performance of the Scorpions, six of whom were playing yesterday, in

RAF Scheme For Winter Sports

Among those who are participating in a scheme arranged by Britain's Royal Air Force Winter Sports Association to enable members of the Service—women as well as men—to spend a fortnight's holiday at St. Moritz, Switzerland, as part of their ordinary leave, is Air Marshal Sir Cyril Cooke, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, R.A.F. Maintenance Command, who will join the party leaving at the beginning of February.

The association has arranged these holidays in six fortnightly periods, at an inclusive cost which covers fares, hotel accommodation, meals, instruction in all winter sports, and the hire of sports equipment.

The first party numbering about 60, and including Group Captain R. W. P. Collins, Chairman of the Association, was due to arrive at St. Moritz on December 27.

He promised, however, that he would enter his boat in the 1949 annual of the Harmsworth Trophy, said today that he was through with piloting water speedsters.

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Women Taking To Athletics

London, Dec. 27.—Girls of all ages in this country, evidently inspired by the efforts of British competitors in the Olympic Games, are going in for athletics on a hitherto unprecedented scale.

The problem which now faces the women's Amateur Athletic Association is not lack of recruits but lack of coaches to look after the recruits.

There are about 20 voluntary teachers in various parts of the country who are finding it increasingly difficult to cope adequately with the new situation, and the Association, anxious to relieve them of some of their burdens, will meet next month to thrash out a new scheme.

GRANT SOUGHT

A Ministry of Education grant, on the same lines of that given to the men's Amateur Athletic Association, would be of great help. Mrs. Hughes, the secretary, said here that two years ago an approach was made to the Ministry, but "I imagine it became submerged by the Olympic Games and other matters, and we heard no more about it."

There is no doubt that women's athletics would benefit by the appointment of a professional coach. A long list of events—international as well as national—may well produce new young stars to join Maureen Gardner, now Mrs. Geoffrey Dyson; Mrs. Dorothy Manley and Audrey Williamson as potential world champions for Britain.—Reuter.

Kind Word For The Nips

Chicago, Dec. 27.—Olympic chairman Avery Brundage declined an interview but sent to Japanese sports enthusiasts through the "Asahi" a year and message of friendly good wishes. He authorized the following statement:

"Remembering well the favourable impression of the great interest in the Olympic movement and our sports gained during my visit to Japan 10 years ago, I take pleasure in sending the seasons greetings and best wishes for a new year of progress and achievement to the sportsmen of Nippon."—Associated Press.

Race Movies For Stewards' Inquiry

Authorities at the Randwick racecourse, headquarters of the Australian Jockey Club, and home of racing in New South Wales, have been experimenting with the use of moving films of races for use of stewards at inquiries.

The A.J.C. has received reports and specimen films from New Zealand and Melbourne, and pictures have been taken from the Randwick stands with standard motion picture and slow-motion and colour equipment.

Most of the experiments have been concerned with finishes, as the committee has already had several screenings of pictures taken in the straight.

The committee believes that pictorial evidence of this kind would be most valuable in the hearing of protests and charges of interference.



YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARD

FOOTBALL

| FIRST DIVISION | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|----|--------|---|----|----|-----|--|--|--|
| | Navy | 0 | Army | 1 | | | | | | |
| | S. China "A" | 4 | Police | 1 | | | | | | |
| HOW THEY STAND | | | | | | | | | | |
| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | | | |
| S. China "A" | 11 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 38 | 12 | 22 | | | |
| KM Bus | 11 | 9 | 0 | 2 | 35 | 12 | 18 | | | |
| Chinese AA | 11 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 30 | 15 | | | |
| Army | 12 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 28 | 14 | 14 | | | |
| Kilchee | 11 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 30 | 24 | 13 | | | |
| S. China "B" | 11 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 20 | 20 | 11 | | | |
| St. Joseph's | 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 23 | 10 | 10 | | | |
| Eastern | 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 20 | 10 | 10 | | | |
| Club | 10 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 17 | 24 | 8 | | | |
| Police | 10 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 17 | 24 | 8 | | | |
| Navy | 10 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 10 | 32 | 3 | | | |
| Kowloon W. | 10 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 12 | 30 | 3 | | | |
| RAF | 11 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 15 | 44 | 3 | | | |

| SECOND DIVISION | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------|------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| South China 2 | Army (HK) | 0 | | | | | | | | |
| Talkoo | 2 | Police | 1 | | | | | | | |
| Kil Chee | 1 | Deekyard | 1 | | | | | | | |
| St. Joseph's | 3 | Solicitors | 0 | | | | | | | |

JUNIOR SHIELD REPLAY

Navy 3 Club 0

| HOW THEY STAND | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|---|----|----|----|-----|--|--|--|
| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | | | |
| Chinese AA | 15 | 13 | 0 | 2 | 72 | 23 | 26 | | | |
| South China | 15 | 12 | 1 | 2 | 40 | 13 | 25 | | | |
| Army (HK) | 13 | 10 | 2 | 1 | 42 | 10 | 22 | | | |
| KM Bus | 12 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 50 | 12 | 20 | | | |
| Navy | 14 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 51 | 10 | 19 | | | |
| Kilchee | 13 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 30 | 19 | 18 | | | |
| Police (HK) | 12 | 8 | 0 | 3 | 34 | 17 | 17 | | | |
| Police | 14 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 25 | 27 | 14 | | | |
| Tramways | 14 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 28 | 33 | 14 | | | |
| St. Joseph's | 14 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 26 | 34 | 11 | | | |
| Deekyard | 14 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 31 | 40 | 10 | | | |
| Club | 15 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 15 | 37 | 9 | | | |
| W.D. Chinese | 15 | 3 | 0 | 10 | 20 | 38 | 8 | | | |
| PCA | 11 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 21 | 35 | 8 | | | |
| Editors | 15 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 12 | 56 | 3 | | | |
| University | 13 | 0 | 3 | 12 | 7 | 40 | 1 | | | |

FUTURE OF THE RUHR

6-Power Decisions Today

London, Dec. 27.—The decisions of the six-power London Conference on the Ruhr will be published tomorrow afternoon, the Foreign Office spokesman announced today.

The draft Statute for the future International Authority for the Ruhr, worked out 10 days ago by the Conference, has now been approved by the British, French, American and Benelux Governments.

Work on minor technical details of the draft Statute has been completed during the weekend by delegation members still in London. The conclusions of the Conference, to be made known tomorrow, will be issued in the form of a 20-page communiqué.

The main interest of this will be the formula used to secure control of the management of the Ruhr industries by the Allied powers for an indefinite period in response to the wishes of the French Government.

TRANSFER OF CONTROL
It is reliably understood that the existing Allied control powers will eventually be transferred in some form to the International Authority for the Ruhr.

It was learned from a usually reliable source in Paris tonight that a substantial concession by Britain and the United States to the French viewpoint on international control of the Ruhr will be revealed in the communiqué.

Under the agreement, reached after weeks of negotiations between experts of the six powers, when the occupation powers hand back sovereignty to the future German Government, certain powers of control over the production of Ruhr coal, coke, iron and steel will be vested in an "International Ruhr Authority."

This is regarded in Paris as a considerable concession because it admits the principle of giving the Allied permanent control over the production of the Ruhr basic industries.

In the original agreement reached between the six Allies in London last June the powers of the International Ruhr Authority were restricted to control over distribution only.

It is learned that the new agreement specified that the Allied sovereignty by the so-called Control powers will be transferred to the International Ruhr Authority "in so far as these powers are necessary to ensure that the (German) production programmes conform to the general policy of the Allies."

By the general policy of the Allies is meant essentially the pacific development of German industry and the contribution of the Ruhr output to European co-operation.

It is recognised in Paris that the formula adopted leaves it an open question which of the existing Allied powers over German industry will continue to be exercised by the Allies after German sovereignty is restored.

MUST BE PERMANENT

But for the first time since the end of the war, London and Washington, it was recalled in Paris, have admitted that control of Ruhr production must be permanently vested in an inter-Allied body.

The general feeling in Paris is that it will now be up to the present or future French Governments to see that sufficient powers are in fact transferred to the International Authority for the Ruhr to make the control of the management of the Ruhr's basic industries effective.

Apart from this central point, the joint communiqué will outline the powers and forms of administration of the International Authority and also give a general idea of all the measures taken or envisaged to ensure the security of German's Western neighbours against any further threat of German aggression.

Security is to be ensured essentially through two bodies:
1.—The Allied Military Security Office whose functions and powers including inspection have been worked out by American, British and French experts in Berlin and Frankfurt.

2.—The International Ruhr Authority which will have power to control future Ruhr coal, coke and steel production programmes and will effect distribution of the Ruhr coal, coke and steel in liaison with the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation.—Reuter.

Anti-Filibuster Legislation

Washington, Dec. 27.—Senator Wayne Morse today served notice that he intends to introduce an anti-filibuster legislation immediately after the Senate convenes on January 3.

He said his proposed bill would change the Senate rules to make limitation to a debate applicable to all business in the Senate.
At the present the law can be invoked only against the legislation itself and not against a proposal to take it up. Southern Senators have used this device to prevent most of the civil rights legislation from reaching the Senate floor.—United Press.

Receives His Nobel Prize



T. S. Eliot (right, foreground) American-born poet, holds his Nobel prize, as Swedish royalty applaud, in the Concert Hall, Stockholm, Sweden. Left to right are Prince Bertil; Crown Princess Louise; Crown Prince Gustaf Adolf, who made the awards; Princess Sibylla, Prince Wilhelm and Prince Carl.—AP Picture.

ARRESTED GIs FREED

Frankfurt, Dec. 27.—The Russians tonight freed six American soldiers and a German policeman who wandered into the Soviet occupation zone yesterday and were taken prisoner. The Americans and the German with them were on patrol along the Russo-American occupation zone border when they entered the Soviet area.

A Russian patrol fired about ten shots at the Americans, arrested them and the German and seized their two jeeps. The Army authorities said all seven were well treated and in good condition.

The Russians turned them over to the American Zone authorities at 10.35 tonight with their weapons and jeeps. They are members of the 22nd United States Constabulary Squadron.

The Americans were patrolling with the German near Himmelsbach when the Russians fired, without wounding any of them, and arrested them. Headquarters of the 22nd Squadron spent a day in negotiation with Russian liaison officers for the men's release.

First reports of the incident came from the German Police.—United Press.

1 In 38 Has A Telephone

New York, Dec. 27.—The U.S. has only six percent of the world's population but nearly three-fifths of its telephones.

The American Telephone and Telegraph Company says the total number of telephones in the world reached 60,000,000 at the start of 1948. That is one for every 38 persons.

Of that total, the U.S. had 34,867,000 telephones in service, or one for every four persons. Since January 1, 3,000,000 more have been added. Sweden is next with one for every five persons, but Britain is second in total numbers—4,654,500.

Of the world total of 60,000,000 telephones, Americans can reach about 90 percent of them from their own phones at home or office.—Associated Press.



"How do you expect me to get such a lot of cash at such short notice?"

Appeal For Preservation Of Peiping & Tientsin

HISTORICAL PLACES TURNED INTO MILITARY FORTRESSES

Tientsin, Dec. 28.—Thirty-seven of the most prominent Chinese representatives in Tientsin, of all walks of life, addressed a telegram today to President Chiang Kai-shek urging the preservation of Tientsin and Peiping.

The message said: "Since the withdrawal of the Nationalist troops from Paoingfu, Tongshan and Nankow, North China has lost its bulwarks and Peiping and Tientsin have become two isolated cities where are now concentrated the forces of the Government.

"According to reports in the press, the historical and monumental places in Peiping have been turned into fortresses for military defence. This ancient cultural capital of China now stands on the point of destruction.

"The whole world, Chinese and foreigners alike, are greatly concerned over this development and upon its outcome will be judged whether we are a fully civilised people.

"Tientsin has no city wall but during the past year or so much of the people's money and materials have been spent in the erection of defence dikes around the city which should be used to the best advantage in any emergency.

PUBLIC FRIGHTENED
"When troops are moved into the heart of the city and sheltered under the roofs of private homes and factories, the defence dikes will not serve its original purpose. Now, schools and colleges have been turned into barracks and thousands of students turned into refugees.

"Pillboxes are being built at busy street corners with countless sandbags, quantities of timber, steel bars and wiring—the public cannot but be frightened by the sight of these preparations and the imagination of disaster in the event of a possible street fighting.

"Furthermore, ammunition and explosives in large quantities are stored in warehouses and private quarters, constituting truly an unimagineable danger.

"Should the military authorities adopt the tactics of drawing the enemy into the city and annihilating them, the danger from stray bullets to the inhabitants of the city would be but insignificant for a hit on any of the ammunition stores would explode the whole city and cause untold deaths, misery and sufferings among Tientsin's two million people....

CULTURAL CAPITAL
"We appeal to you as the faithful follower of Christ and Dr. Sun Yat-sen, two great men who came to earth to save the people and preach the gospel of love—and we feel confident that you, being mindful of the trust that millions of people have placed in you for their safety and happiness, will certainly abhor to see or hear of the imminence of so mournful a catastrophe and will do what you can for preventing it.

Western Union Defence HQ At Fontainebleau

Paris, Dec. 27.—The French National Assembly today adopted a bill authorising a credit of 40 million francs for the installation of the Western Union defence headquarters at Fontainebleau by 418 votes to 181.

Only the Communists voted against the bill. All other groups, including the de Gaulists, voted for it.

Members of the French Government, including the Minister of National Defence, M. Paul Ramadier, walked out of the Assembly earlier when a Communist Deputy spoke of "the installation of a new Kommandatura in the Chateau de Fontainebleau."

The Deputy, M. Andre Gautier, who sits for the Seine de Marne Department in which Fontainebleau is situated, was speaking in the debate on the installation of the Western Union defence headquarters.

Gautier described the Western Union defence plan as "a stage in the preparation of war against the USSR." His reference to "a new Kommandatura" was greeted with lively protests from the Government benches.

The cost of installing the Western Union headquarters is to be advanced by the French Government and later shared between the signatories of the Western Union defence pact.—Reuter.

Shipping Dispute Talks Resume

San Francisco, Dec. 27.—Shipowners and the American Federation of Labor Sailors' Union of the Pacific resumed negotiations Monday over a dispute threatening Pacific Coast shipping.

The Federal conciliator, Mr. Omar Hoskins, sat in on the talks. The sailors want increases ranging from \$20 to \$60 a month. Employers have offered increases of from \$10 to \$25.—Associated Press.

Papers Back House Of Lords Appeal With Funds

London, Dec. 27.—Thousands of pounds are being contributed voluntarily by British newspapers and periodicals to finance an appeal to the highest court in Britain—the House of Lords—against what has been described as a Hollywood film criticism and intimidate English film critics.

The appeal arises from a case between a film critic of the British Broadcasting Corporation, Miss Arnot Robertson, and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Two years ago, the company refused to allow Miss Robertson to review their films in London and complained to the BBC that she was "completely out of touch with the tastes and entertainment requirements of the picture-going millions."

Miss Robertson demanded a public apology and compensation of the grounds that a letter sent by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer to the BBC was "defamatory."

She sued for alleged libel, won the case with £1,500 awarded as damages, but later lost the decision on an appeal by the film company to a higher court.

One of the two hearings of the case was held at the House of Lords. The other was held at the House of Commons.

Mr. Hilton Deane, the honorary secretary of the film section of the London Critics' Circle and Fund Treasurer, said: "Judging by the way things are going it looks very hopeful. Counting everything promised, we already have about £25,000 which will roughly cover expenses already incurred."

"Another £3,000 is needed for the House of Lords' appeal."

Notice of the appeal must be lodged at the House of Lords by January for it to be considered during the new session.

One of the largest contributions to the fund was £1,000 from the newspaper peer, Lord Kemsley. Four other papers and periodicals each contributed £250 to make up another £1,000. Literary groups and individuals sent smaller amounts.

M.P.'S COMMENTS

The case has already been aired in the House of Commons. A journalist Member of Parliament, Mr. Tom Driberg, speaking about it in a debate on the Government's new Legal Aid and Advice Bill, said: "As things are, it may clearly be difficult in the future for critics or other writers in similar circumstances to risk bringing libel actions at all against these opulent and barbarous Hollywood corporations, whoever they may be, who are trying to gag English criticism and intimidate English critics."

"The power crazed vindictiveness of this Caliban kind of organisation is most deplorable," he declared. "Members of the Critics' Circle, whiplapping up funds for the Robertson case, have themselves been threatened with libel proceedings by MGM unless they withdraw a letter circulated in an appeal for funds.—Reuter.

377 HOLIDAY DEATHS

Chicago, Dec. 27.—The holiday death toll in the United States mounted to 377 on Monday.

Of these, 207 were killed in traffic accidents, 32 persons died in fires. The remainder were from miscellaneous accidental causes, including three persons to death.

Seven members of one family died in a Christmas day fire which destroyed their home at New Brunswick, New Jersey. Another family of six similarly perished at Barre, Massachusetts. Four members of a family were burned to death in Kansas City. Five negroes perished in a Texas, Alabama, fire.—Associated Press.

SCOUTS JAMBOREE

Melbourne, Dec. 27.—Eleven-thousand Boy Scouts from the Pacific countries will attend a pan-Pacific Scout Jamboree which opens on Wednesday at Wonga Park, New Hinkwood, Victoria.

The jamboree, which will continue until January 9, is regarded as a dress rehearsal for the World Scout Jamboree to be held next year in Auckland, New Zealand.—Associated Press.

TO-DAY & TO-MORROW

* PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME WITH 14 REELS *
BLASTING ACTION! VIOLENT LOVE! EXCITEMENT!
JOHN WAYNE
LARAIN DAY in
with SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE * JAMES GLEASON
An RKO's Mighty Technicolor Spectacle Triumph!

NEXT CHANGE—AGAIN TOGETHER! AGAIN TERRIFIC!
HUMPHREY BOGART
LAUREN BACALL in
"DARK PASSAGE"

POCKET CARTOON



NEAR RECORD BY BERLIN AIR LIFT

Wiesbaden, Dec. 27.—American and British planes on the Berlin airlift carried their second largest tonnage—6,430.4 tons of food, fuel and supplies—in the 24-hour period ended at noon today.

The record tonnage of 6,887 tons was carried on Air Force Day, September 18. With the completion yesterday of six months of airlift, the combined British and American air forces had carried 700,172 tons of supplies to Berlin in 90,840 flights. During the period, 17 American and seven British airmen have been killed in crashes. Each of the 2,500,000 people in Western Berlin received 600 pounds weight in food, fuel and other supplies.

Soviet Yak fighters did air to air firing practice at five places in the Berlin air corridor today. An official Anglo-American report said the operation was "contrary to Allied agreement."—Reuter.

DRIVE AGAINST GREEK GUERRILLAS

Athens, Dec. 27.—The Greek Prime Minister, M. Themistocles Sophoulis, today announced a drive against guerrillas in the Peloponnese. Press despatches from Patras said over 100 guerrillas were captured or surrendered in the Peloponnese last week.—Reuter.

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December 27 & 28

2.30, 5.10, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m.

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DE MARNEY
FRANKAU

DUAL ALIBI

An International Release

TO-DAY & TO-MORROW

AT 2.30, 5.00, 7.20 & 9.40 P.M.

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Typists, Stenographers, Clerks required. Clerks with knowledge of filing and registry, also of accounting. Applicants to visit in person at Headquarters, Kowloon Infantry Brigade, Whitfield Barracks, between 10 a.m. and noon on 29th, 30th and 31st December.

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